

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY OES/NET/IM: D H COOPER:BJB
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TO AMEMBASSY BERN

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SUBJECT: NUCLEX 78 - PARTICIPATION BY U.S. SCIENTISTS AND
OFFICIALS IN NUCLEX 78 CONGRESS, BASEL, OCTOBER 2-6, 1978

1. AS EMBASSY AWARE, USDOC IS PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE
NUCLEX EXHIBITION. DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN SUCH U.S. PARTIC-
IPATION PROVIDED THIS IS DONE IN A MANNER WHICH DOES NOT
UNDERMINE PRESIDENT CARTER'S RECENTLY ANNOUNCED NUCLEAR
NON-PROLIFERATION POLICIES. (THE ESSENCE OF THESE POLICIES
WAS DESCRIBED IN THE WHITE HOUSE FACT SHEET DATED APRIL 27,
1977, ON THE PROPOSED NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION ACT OF
1977, WHICH WAS PROVIDED TO EMBASSY BY WIRELESS FILE.)
AMONG THE PRINCIPAL POLICY DECISIONS MADE BY THE PRESIDENT
WAS THAT REPROCESSING AND RECYCLING OF PLUTONIUM SHOULD BE
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INDEFINITELY DEFERRED IN THE U.S. AND THAT WE SHOULD EN-
COURAGE OTHER NATIONS TO ADOPT SIMILAR POLICIES UNTIL THE
PROLIFERATION DANGERS OF THE "PLUTONIUM ECONOMY" CAN BE
THOROUGHLY ASSESSED. ACCORDINGLY, WHILE DEPARTMENT, DOC,
AND ERDA HAVE NO OBJECTION TO PARTICIPATION IN NUCLEX 78
BY THOSE INDIVIDUALS LISTED IN PARA 1 OF REFTTEL, WE BELIEVE
IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE FOR NON-U.S. NATIONALS TO

CHAIR MEETINGS ON TOPICS A4 AND B4, AS LISTED IN SUBPARA 1(A) AND 1(B), SINCE THESE TOPICS IMPLY COMMITMENT TO RE-PROCESSING, RECOVERY AND USE OF PLUTONIUM ON COMMERCIAL BASIS.

2. EMBASSY REQUESTED CONVEY GIST PARA 1 TO NUCLEX 78 ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, TOGETHER WITH SUGGESTION THAT IN ; LIEU OF ORNL SPECIALIST, DR. CARL KUHLMAN OF ERDA BE NOMINATED TO CO-CHAIR PLENARY SESSION B ON WASTE MANAGEMENT OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS. DR. KUHLMAN, WHO IS ACTING DIRECTOR FOR CIVILIAN WASTE MANAGEMENT AND REPROCESSING, DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT, PRODUCTION, AND REPROCESSING AT ERDA HGS., WASHINGTON, D.C., IS INTIMATELY FAMILIAR WITH BOTH TECHNICAL AND U.S. POLICY ASPECTS OF WASTE MANAGEMENT AND IS, THEREFORE, MOST QUALIFIED TO MAKE POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO PLENARY SESSION B ACTIVITIES. VANCE

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